

Applic. No. 10/010,246
Response Dated August 20, 2007
Responsive to Final Office Action of January 5, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (original). A surgical clip, comprising:

- a) a first arm;
- b) a second arm;
- c) a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially U-shaped structure;
- d) at least one deformable retainer extending past one end of said arms in a direction, wherein said retainer has a length in said direction of at least approximately π times the distance between the arms when the arms are substantially parallel.

2 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said first arm has a first thickness and said retainer has a second thickness smaller than said first thickness.

3 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said at least one deformable retainer ~~extending from one of said arms includes two~~ is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

4 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said retainer has a sharp tip.

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5 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said retainer is decouplable from said one of said arms.

6 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 5, wherein:

said retainer is removably coupled to said arms by a friction fit.

7 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 2, wherein:

said at least one deformable retainer ~~extending from one of said arms includes two~~ is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

8 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 7, wherein:

each of said retainers ~~[[are]]~~ is decouplable from said arms.

9 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 8, wherein:

each of said retainers ~~[[are]]~~ is removably coupled to said arms by friction fits.

10 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 9, wherein:

each of said arms includes an end portion defining a slot, and each of said deformable retainers includes a proximal portion which has a friction fit with a respective slot.

11 to 16 (canceled).

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17 (original). A kit, comprising:

- a) at least one surgical clip; and
- b) an applier for applying said at least one surgical clip to tissue, wherein

said at least one surgical clip comprises a first arm, a second arm, a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially U-shaped structure, and at least one deformable retainer extending from one of said arms, wherein said retainer has a length of at least approximately π times the distance between the arms when the arms are substantially parallel.

18 (currently amended). A kit according to claim 17, wherein:

said at least one surgical clip ~~comprises~~ is a plurality of surgical clips.

19 to 20 (canceled).

21 (original). A surgical clip, comprising:

a first arm;

a second arm;

a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially U-shaped structure with said first and second arms being substantially parallel to one another;

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at least one deformable retainer extending past one end of said arms in a direction, said retainer having a length in said direction equal to a multiple of a distance between said arms, said multiple being greater than 2.5.

22 (original). A surgical clip, comprising:

a first arm;

a second arm;

a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially U-shaped structure; and

at least one deformable retainer extending from one of said arms and having a deformable portion, said deformable portion of said retainer having a length of at least approximately Π times the distance between said arms when said arms are substantially parallel.

23 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said first arm has a first thickness and said retainer has a second thickness smaller than said first thickness.

24 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said retainer ~~extending from one of said arms includes two~~ is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

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25 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said retainer has a sharp tip.

26 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said retainer is decouplable from said one of said arms.

27 (original). A surgical clip according to 26, wherein said retainer is removably coupled to said arms by a friction fit.

28 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 23, wherein said deformable retainer ~~extending from one of said arms includes two~~ is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

29 (currently amended). A surgical clip according to claim 28, wherein each of said retainers ~~[[are]]~~ is decouplable from said arms.

30 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 29, wherein each of said retainers ~~[[are]]~~ is removably coupled to said arms by friction fits.

31 (original). A surgical clip according to claim 30, wherein each of said arms includes an end portion defining a slot, and each of said deformable retainers includes a proximal portion having a friction fit with respective slot.

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32 (new). A surgical clip, comprising:

a first arm;

a second arm;

a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially U-shaped structure with said first and second arms being substantially parallel to one another and being physically separated from one another when substantially parallel to one another; and

at least one deformable retainer extending past one end of said arms in a direction, said retainer having a length in said direction equal to a multiple of a distance between said arms, said multiple being greater than 2.5.